OUR LEAD IN KOREA

Accident Made Americans Her Commercial Developers.

GUESSES AS TO FUTURE

PLAYING THE STAR ROLE AND HOW IT BEGAN.

American Interests Have Lost No Ground, No Matter How Strong the Opposition.

(Copyright, 1904, by Arthur B. Hulbert.) Written for The Evening Star by Archer Butler Hulbert, formerly Editor of the Korean Inde

Korea is the only foreign country in Which Americans have taken the leading part in its commercial exploitation; and it was purely by accident that America began to play the important role in the development of the hermit kingdom that she has played during the past generation.

It was just twenty years ago, after the emeute of 1884, that an American medical missionary, Dr. Horace Allen, was called upon to perform a serious operation on the mangled body of Prince Min Yung Ik, a Korean nobleman. The operation was successful and attracted the attention of the Korean emperor, who immediately appointed Dr. Allen king's physician.

The American missionaries, other than medical, were also achieving the beginning of their successes. At the same time, in order to found a school for the training of Korean noblemen's sons for government and diplomatic positions, the Korean government sent to America, asking for three teachers to found a government school or years. Americans took the lead in Korea in missionary, medical and educational lines. They were looked upon as friends by the natives, and were loved; they were not meddling in politics; not asking for coaling stations or open ports. They came to do good, and they did good and nothing

The first chapter of modern Korean history ended with the outbreak of the Japan-China war. Korea had nominally belonged to China up to this time; though the Catholic missionaries had been in Korea almost since the Puritans landed at Plymouth Rock, France had sought no political power in the government. The Royal Hospital had been founded through Dr. Allen's in-fluence. At the close of the war Korea be-



CUT ON THE SEOUL-CHEMULPO BAILWAY, BUILT BY AMERICANS.

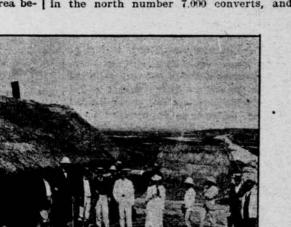
pany which had built the Seoul-Chemulpo The motormen have been Japanese and the conductors Koreans. Of course, a number of accidents have happened; at one of these a car was demolished and the company's plant was endangered. The Koreans pany's plant was endangered. The Koreans are a very stately race of men; they move slowly and have no wit in avoiding accidents—and the trolley car the world over is no respecter of dignity. The commonest surgical operation in Korea, the medical missionaries say, is to pull a two or three-foot pipestem out of the back of a Korean's neck; by accidents, in wheeling around corners or by falling down when intoxicated, these pipestems are jammed downward or backward, ad infinitum.

Have Expressive Names.

Other more marvelous objections have been raised to these "make-themselves-go machines," so named by the people who call the bicycle the "man-make-himself-go machine." The people affirm that a recent drought had been caused by the electric wires which are strung across Seoul, in all six miles in length. They declared that the wires cut off the influence of heaven. Others were not satisfied whether the blame should be given the wires or the location of the power house of the electric plant; it was found on examination of the records that the house stood on a sacred spot and desecrated it. The power house remains,

however, on the hallowed spot.

During these years of commercial exploitation the American missionaries have not been backward; the Presbyterian missions in the north number 7,000 converts, and



EXCURSION PARTY AT AN ENGINEER'S CAMP, SEOUL-CHEMULPO

The baths date from an even earlier period, and one wonders if there is any nostrum today for the preservation of beauty RAILWAY.

came free from outsiders and spoil for her own robber princes. Being free, Korea had the right to grant foreign concessions. Various parties sought these vigorously, but unsuccessfully; for in almost every in stance there seemed to be an ulterior po-litical motive in view. Horace Allen had now become American ambassador to Korea, and it was plain that America's wholesome introduction to Korea through missionary, physician and educator was to lead to commercial successes which would also be unrivaled.

First Two Concessions.

In a short time James H. Morse of the American Trading Company secured two concessions from the Korean government. one for opening gold mines in the mountains of northern Korea and another for building the first railway in the country, from the seaport of Chemulpo to the capital. Seoul, twenty-seven miles inland. The mining concession was leased to Leigh A plan costing a quarter of a million dollars is now in operation, J. Sloat Fassett of New York being one of the best-known interested parties. The contract for building the railway was given to the American and Oriental Construction Company, formed by Messrs. Collbron and James of Denver and Chattanooga, respectively. In the building of the road W. C. Carley was first engineer in charge, H. R. Bostwick auditor, and S. F. Phillips super-

intendent in charge. The principal feat in the construction of

the Methodist missions in the center of the little kingdom count over 5,000. The Meth odists have paid special attention to pub-lishing; their first plant, the Trilingual Press, having played an important part in the opening of Korea. The Roman Catholics number 40,000 converts; they entered Korea two centuries ago, when the Jesuits were leading the way into the heart of the American continent. The Koreans have "practically given up Buddhism and Con-fucianism," according to Minister Allen.

Depends on Politics.

A few American trading houses have sprung up; the Standard Oil Company does a large business in Korea; but the future of American trade, of course, depends, like everything else, upon the political turn which things may take in the future in the landing of the Morning Calm. Seventy per cent of the trade of Korea is with England; Japan and Russia have a little on the east and north.

Thanks to the wisdom of her representatives in Korea, America has maintained her place with dignity and success. As Mr. Allen has modestly stated, "Today Americans are found to be in possession of rights and privileges of great material value, obtained by peaceful means from the good will of the people."

Have Lost No Ground

Amid all the excitement of various upris ings, of the Japan-China war and of the the road was throwing an eight-span bridge surprising days of 1898, American interests across the great river Han, three miles have not lost ground. On one occasion, at



AN EXCURSION PARTY OVER THE CONSTRUCTION TRACK OF THE SEOUL-CHEMULPO RAILWAY.

from Seoul. This bridge, 1,650 feet long. come blundaring safely into the half-char-tered Korean port under the firm hand of a Yankee skipper; but their wonder became amazement when the strange pieces of iron it bore as cargo were carried twentyfive miles inland and swung safely above the mad tides of the chief river of Korea. The total length of the bridge is 2,450 feet, including approaches. Upon complet Japanese company secured the road.

At Seoul's West Gate.

This road had its terminus without the west gate of Seoul. American enterprise put on foot an electric railway running from the railway terminus into Seoul. through the city and out to the tomb of the murdered Empress Min. three miles east of the city, and a Mecca for Koreans. The Seoul Electric Company was organ-

was sent across the Atlantic in pieces on a special vessel. It made the Koreans open their eyes to see a three-masted schooner would have done anything to have obtained would have done anything to have obtained his majesty's person; but he was kindly but firmly refused the necessary permission. Nothing would have been gained to American's best interests by having the pessession of the king, and a thousand dangers would have been run. The emperor leads a haunted life, sleeping in day time, when all the world's awake, and holding his cabinet meetings and doing ell his business by night. He has deserted his and lives in a straw-thatched barn of a building in a frog pond in the foreign quarter-within reach of the legations in From any point of view America mus

be greatly interested in and connected with the future of Korea. Twice as many Amer-icans can talk the Korean language as any other nationality of foreigners in Korea;

important part in the early work of the Independence Club. When filled with fears of assassination, just after the murder of his queen, the Emperor of Korea put not a mouthful of food to his lips that was not mouthful of food to his lips that was not prepared by the hands of an American missionary and taken secretly to the palace. On the occasion of a riot on Thanksgiving day night, 1896, three Americans lay in the ante room of the king's bed chamber at the palace with cocked revolvers and other weapons in their hands, ready to beat back the mob if it came.

Our Inside Track.

There is something splendid in the mere fact that America has taken no advantage of the "inside track" that she has secured in Korea to gain political power. Her refusal to take such advantage has given her almost the power that others have desired; and it would be a small surprise to the well informed in far eastern politics if Americans should possess an influence in stormtossed Korea which, irrespective of the outcome of any war herves. Puesia and Je tossed Korea which, irrespective of the outcome of any war between Russia and Japan, should, for one thing, put a serious
prohibition on Russian advance in that direction. It would be interesting if American influence in Korea should be the real
power that Russia should find in Korea
when she raps at the door again.

Note.-Indeed, there is a treaty, in force Note.—Indeed, there is a treaty, in force since 1883, between Korea and the United States, a clause of which reads as follows:

"If other powers deal unjustly or oppressively with either government, the other will exert its good offices, on being informed of the case, to bring about an amicable arrangement, thus showing their friendly feelings."—Editor.

Old and New Aids to Beauty. Countess in London Outlook.

Of course, there is nothing new in the cult of beauty; the only novelty lies in the extravagant fashion in which new inventions are applied to it. Electric baths and vibration treatment may be innovations, but cosmetics and medicated baths date from the earliest age. Women have always aspired to be beautiful, and have painted their faces and "tired their heads" since time immemorial and in all countries. The geisha of Japan changes the color of her lips three times in one evening, and no little Japanese lady ever misses an opportunity of whip-ping out the rouge pot and mirror which form an indispensable part of her toilet. Among the recipes which have come down to us from our ancestresses are many pre-scriptions for the complexion composed of marshmallow and wax, honey of roses and olive oil. Mixed bathing in tubs of water thickened with scented bran and salutary erbs was the fashion in mediaeval France which was not known to those professional beauties of France, DDiane de Poitiers and Ninon de l'Enclos.

The question is, Are women really any more admired today for being steamed and smeared and electrified? Is any attraction worth having which is obtained by the painful and expensive methods we read of? I doubt it. Nobody is really taken in by the artificially manufactured beauty.

It is the duty of every woman to make the best of herself. Certain defects of complexion and figure can be easily remedied. Physical defects of the complexion and figure can be easily remedied.

sical exercises, fresh air and good diet will work wonders with those, and by the addi-tion of a smart dressmaker, milliner and clever hairdresser many a plain girl has been transformed into a pretty one. If a woman's nose is inclined to absorb too much color and her cheeks too little, no doubt a few judicious dabs of powder and rouge in the right places may be excusable.

Japanese Traits.

Paris Letter to London Truth. The Japanese who study in schools of the faculties at Saint-Cyr and in naval building yards are models of unassuming, polite deportment-reserved and yet not stiff, evasive rather than aloof, not disposed for intimate friendship, and afraid of treading on feet. They give no trouble to any one, show ant-like application to their business, whatever it may be. They chat prettily when they have to talk, saying no more than what they want to say, and always in a gentle tone. Their government gives scholarships to enable students to go abroad. The number who go to America increases, and it appears that Japanese oung ladies flock to girls' colleges in the Inited States. But few come here.

The light of nature evidently leads young Japs whither they ought to go. In my childhood I heard that the arch-enemy of mankind took care not to tempt Unitarians. because he wanted to use them as decoy ducks to draw true believers to perdition. I suppose that he uses the Japanese who study in the Quartier Latin for the same purpose, as they seem under no temptation to commit those gross sins to which youth of their age are inclined. Like the chick, they came into the world with the science they came into the world with the science of life and need only technical instruction. I wonder at and admire their skill in so many directions—their cleanliness, orderly habts and inventiveness, which generally runs in an aesthetic direction and seems bred of fancy. But I am unable to cotton to them or to enjoy their commany and I to them or to enjoy their company, and I have cottoned to many Russians.

The Peril of Living.

From the Atlanta Constitution. What are we to believe, forsooth? While we never had reason to regard medicine as an exact science, we are every now and then shocked to see time-honored fundamental dogmas of materia medica ruthlessly reversed-nay, trampled upon and spat upon, and argued out of countenance. Even sundry beneficent "roots and yarbs" of the hale old time are now gravely pronounced "deleterious" or flippantly dis-missed as "innocuous." They won't even missed as "innocuous." They won't even let us believe that lime is a sanitary disinfectant and general purifier any more. Every way we turn we are met by a "thou shalt not" where we thought we should in the interest of hygiene and longevity. Now the scientific knockers of medicine are attacking mineral waters. Ye gods:—mineral waters! No more shall we sojourn at "The Springs" for our health, or spend our good dimes and quarters for or spend our good dimes and quarters for water that looks and tastes like, and that some wretched skeptics are willing to swear is, the free and unlimited agua pura

Education in England.

Whatever the explanation may be, there

s. unfortunately, a contempt for education throughout all classes in this country. Naturally, therefore, our education is the worst of any highly civilized country. And secause it is so we are gradually losing ground, and our competitors are forging ahead of us. We are losing ground, not alone in trade and manufactures, but in every department of life. Our whole gov-erament system is inefficient to a surpris-The Seoul Electric Company was organized: It comprised Koreans only, with the governor of the city as president. The franchise came from the department of public worls. The company was capitalized at \$300,000; one half of this sum was immediately puld to the same construction com-

ARSENAL EXPLOSION

Disaster of Nearly Forty Years Ago.

A MONUMENT ERECTED

TWENTY-ONE GIRLS IN LABORA-TORY BURNED TO DEATH.

President Lincoln and Secretary Stan ton Attend Funeral-Greatest Fatality in City.

The visitor to the Congressional cemetery will notice close to the western brick wall, and near the middle gate, a marble monument about twenty-five feet high, surmounted by the figure of a young woman. Upon tablets on the four sides there are inscriptions. The inscriptions declare that the monument was erected by citizens of the District in memory of those who lost their lives in an explosion at the arsenal June 17, 1864, and also give the names of the twenty-one victims.

It was a bright morning in June, 1864. The birds sang sweetly in the trees that made the arsenal grounds a bowerland, and the soft breezes from the lazy Potomac lulled to slumber the soldiers who lay in the shady nooks along the shore wall watching the river craft plying to and fro.

Occurred on Friday, June 17, 1864. It was Friday, that unlucky day, and the stillness was disturbed only by the tread of the sentry as he paced the walk. In a one-story brick building, containing four rooms, located in the northern end or entrance to the arsenal grounds, extending east and west, a company of about one hundred and eight young women were busily engaged at work. It was the labora-tory of the arsenal. They were making cartridges for small arms, called "choking" cartridges. This was during the war, and the cartridges were being made for ship-

Suddenly there was a great flash of light just outside of the building, and through the open windows into the building went a dart of flame that ran like a hissing serpent along the table where the girls were at work. In an instant there was a greater flash of light that seemed to fill the entire room, which was quickly followed by a deafening explosion.

The report came like an earthquake People in South Washington rushed

out of doors to learn the cause. It was in the troublous war times, and the people for some years had their nerves wrought up to a high tension, and their eyes and ears were primed to see and hear anything unusual with feelings alternating betwixt hope and fear.

It was but a very brief time before the word passed from street to street that there had been a terrible explosion at the arsenal, and thither many hundreds of people hurried for the horrible confirmation.

Explosion of Stars Started Fire.

Shortly before noon a quantity of stars intended for shells, that had been lying outdoors in copper pans to dry about thirty feet from the laboratory building, caught fire from the heat of the sun and exploded. The flash from the exploding stars entered the building through the adjacent open windows, igniting the powder and cartridges exposed on the long table in front of the women employes. In an instant there was a deafgning roar, followed by a fire that seemed to take hold of everything in the room. The unfortunate women were instantly wrapped in consumwere in

young women, and not one escaped with-out injuries. The women in the east end of the building escaped by jumping from the windows, being close to the ground It was this quick action that saved their

These stars that caused the explosion and set fire to the building were composed of chlorate of potash, nitrate of strancia and There were about eight or nine hundred of them in three metallic pans, and they were used to produce white and

red stars in exploding shells.

The investigation by a coroner's jury after the disaster revealed that the cause of the explosion was the "criminal carelessness" of the superintendent in placing the combustible stars in such close prox-

in ity to the laboratory.

It was a gruesome sight that met the eyes when the flames had been subdued and the work of recovering the bodies of the victims had been concluded. Seventeen bedies were laid upon the green sward. Nearly all of the bodies were unrecognizable. The flames had done desperate work. Some of the bodies lay in boxes some on boards and some in large tin pans. A few of the bodies were burned to finder and were incased in the wire hoop-

skirts that were in vogue at that time. Identification of Bodies.

Some of the bodies were afterward identified by a shoe or a piece of jewelry that had escaped the ravages of the flames. It was noted as a singular fact at the time that the women who had worn hoopskirts suffered the most from the flames, their bodies being burned to a crisp.

This was the worst catastrophe that had ever happened in Washington, and prob-

bly has not been equaled here since. The jury that held the inquest over the remains of seventeen of the victims were the fol-lowing citizens, nearly all of whom have long since passed to their reward: Asbury Lloyd, foreman; James Lawrenson, Thos. E. Lloyd, Robert H. Graham, Herman G. Lorch, Thos. Taylor, Wm. H. Lusby, S. H. Ingersoll, W. H. Rutzer, F. A. Boswell, W. H. Gibson and Jos. Pullin. The jury in its verdict recounted the case of the cree w. h. Gibson and Jos. Pulin. The Jury in its verdict recounted the cause of the explosion very explicitly, and rebuked the superintendent, one Thomas B. Brown, who had been a pyrotechnist at the arsenal since 1841, for placing the combustible stars so near the laboratory, and said that he merited severe censure by the government so near the laboratory, and said that he merited severe censure by the government for his "culpable carelessness and negligence and reckless disregard for life." In the separate verdict in each case there were only two instances where the names of victims were used. In all the other cases the word "female" was used.

Besides the seventeen dead bodies recovered there were four women who escaped

from the building, but who subsequently died from their terrible burns.

Maj. Jas. G. Benton was the commandant of the arsenal at this time.

Employes Vote a Day's Wages. A meeting of the employes of the arsenal

was held that day, and it was voted to contribute one day's pay to defray the expenses of the funeral Committees were appointed to select a site in the Congressional cemetery for the dead victims, to arrange for the funeral and procession, and to acquaint families and relatives of the victims of the action of the meeting and to victims of the action of the meeting and to secure their attendance at the funeral.

One family named Adams lost a daughter in the explosion. It was the third child lost on Friday, and also from unnatural causes. Another incident of the explosion was that on the morning of the day it occurred a young woman had been sent home from work by the superintendent for laughing and talking during working hours, which was prohibited by the rules. To this bit of discipline she owed her life. Another incident reported is that on the same day of the explosion a letter had been received by the authorities at the arsenal from the arsenal at Allegheny, near Pittsburg, acknowledging with grateful thanks the receipt of \$170 contributed for the relief of a number of sufferers from a similar fatality at that place.

number of sufferers from a similar fatality at that place.

Despite the pall of uncertainty and gloom which hung over Washington and the entire country by reason of war and all its attendant horrors, this catastrophe sent a thrill of horror and subsequent intense sorrow over the entire city. In South Washington, where nearly all the victims lived, it provoked universal expressions of sympathy and mourping. Indeed, it was a subject for talk and reference some years after its happening.

Funeral Held on Sunday. The funeral occurred on Sunday afternoon, June 19, and took place at the arsenal of devise means to crect a say, bring one o' them little pots full of it."

nds, near the scene of the disaster, than a thousand people waited at the of the arsenal, at the foot of 414 More than a thousand people waited at the gates of the arsenal, at the foot of 4½ street, for entrance to the ceremonies. It was a very hot day and many were overcome by the heat in the immense throng. The gates opened at 2:30 o'clock. The exercises were held on a large platform, about 15 by 20 feet, covered with white duck and trimmed with emblems of mourning. Overhead was a canopy draped with the American flag and mourning. There were fifteen coffins containing the remains, eight undentified on one side of the platform and seven identified on the other side. The coffins were made in the arsenal carpenter shop of poplar and were silver mounted. Upon the top of each was a plate bearing the name of the inmate, where known, or the word "Unknown" if otherwise.

Rev. Father A. Bokel of St. Dominic's parish preached a funeral service for the victims who had been Catholics, and Rev. S. V. Leech, pastor of Gorsuch Chapel, on 4½ street southwest, preached for the Protestant victims. The services were very impressive and there were many exhibitions of hysteria and intense grief by families of victims, who begged to have the coffins opened that they might view the remains. Owing to the almost unrecognizable condition of the remains it was held inadvisable and unwise to do so.

Long Funeral Procession.

Long Funeral Procession.

The funeral cortege moved up 41/2 street to Pennsylvania avenue, and thence out to Congressional cemetery. It was a very long one, occupying over a half hour to pass any given point. John G. Dudley was chief marshal. The bells in St. Dominic's Church and the Columbia Fire Company house



Monument in Congressional Cemetery. tolled and business in South Washington was generally suspended during the funeral

The procession was headed by the Finley The procession was headed by the Finley Hospital Band; then came divisions of the Sons of Temperance, which was a flourishing fraternal organization in those days, consisting of Excelsior, No. 6; Good Samaritan, No. 1; Equal, No. 3; Armory Square, No. 4; Columbian, No. 5; Aurora, No. 9, and Lincoln, No. 11.

President Lincoln and Secretary Stanton and son of the latter rode in a carriage as and son of the latter rode in a carriage as

chief mourners. There were many ambulances containing officers and employes of the navy yard and

The following is a list of the pallbearers, many of whom have since gone to join the

majority: The Pallbearers.

E. Crampton, E. D. Clapp, J. H. Granger, Dishard L. Anderson, T. Mansfield, G. Dalton, N. Jones, W. Whitmore, John Condy, W. America, A. J. Cawood, J. H. Huntington, G. Hercus, - Leach, - Hall, T. F. Mockabee, A. Curnon, E. McElroy, L. Martin, J. Indermauer, W. Beagle, W. Powell, E. Mullet, C. S. Draper, H. H. Lemon, H. Marders, R. King, B. Young, C. Smithson, J. Meddler, C. Sorrell, J. Dickinson, W. Weeden, Thomas McCook, John Weeden, T. Dickson, M. Rhyon, J. Phys. H. W. Young, J. Clover, O. Spicer, Phys. Rev. Lett. 10, 100 (1997), 100 Rhyon, H. W. Young, J. Glover, O. Spicer,
O. Bailey, M. Spicer, J. Miller, T. Rowland, R. Johnson, H. Leesnitzer, W. H.
Toffing, W. J. Carmichael, C. Callaghan,
R. Gracey, J. Redmond, N. Nolan, W.
Handsberry, F. Shay, H. Edgar, W. Boyd, Handsberry, F. Shay, H. Edgar, W. Boyd, J. Farrell, G. Ritz, A. Ariston, C. Zell, F. Keetz, G. Brandman, E. Hoffman, H. Wiskett, M. Sullivan, A. Anderson, J. Miller, J. Kelley, J. Beacham, J. Richmond, G. Neff, Joseph Gunnell, C. Snook, F. Daffer, Wm. Moore, Wm. Meeks, A. Love, J. Schaeffer, E. Hoover, Jos. Green, R. Jacobs, W. Kidwell, J. Fry, A. Ferguson, H. Van Horn, Joseph Coderick, O. Dunn, Thos. Dunn, on the part of the workingmen at the arsenal, and C. F. Smith, J. S. Hollidge, J. T. Gallard, H. Henry Haggard, H. P. Pillsbury, C. C. Bushnell, D. L. Haggard, B. F. Scott, G. S. Dall, C. S. Maxwell, J. H. McMurray, J. H. Wooley and Robert Hazell on the part of the Sons and Robert Hazell on the part of the Sons of Temperance.

There was a long line of carriages to the number of 150. The sixteen coffins were placed alternating in hearses and ambulances, there not being enough hearses to

accommodate all the coffins. There was a large express wagon belonging to the Adams Express Company in line, draped in mourning and carrying a number

of employes of the government express

Procession Augmented by Another. When the procession reached F street southwest it was joined by the funeral cortege of Miss Sallie McElfresh, one of the victims, whose funeral exercises had been held at Ryland Chapel, corner of 10th and D streets, where she had been a member. Rev. Lemon preached the sermon. The pallbearers were George A. Hail, W. H. Greenwell, E. H. Hoover and J. F. Hall. One of the victims, Susan Hains, was a member of Wesley Chapel Sunday school.

As a tribute to her memory the school marched in a body to the south side of Pennsylvania avenue near 4½ street and lined up. As the cortege passed the school sang: "Sister, Thou Wert Mild and Lovely."

dismissed with a benediction. At the cemetery an immense concourse of people had gathered many hours before the procession arrived. The ceremonies were very simple. The clergyman, Rev. Leech, and a Mr. W. F. Crutchley, chaplain of Excelsior Division, Sons of Temperance, read their respective services for the dead.

They then returned to the church and were

The coffins were lowered into two large pits, where the monument now stands, each pit being six feet long, fifteen feet wide and five and a half feet deep. There was a passageway of about five feet between the a passageway of about five feet between the pits. The closing scenes at the interment were very affecting and not without remarkable exhibitions of extreme anguish. Some of the relatives of the unfortunate victims were overcome by hysteria and some hung dangerously over the pits calling their dear ones by name. It was with great difficulty that they were restrained. The remains of Miss McElfresh were placed in a grave near by containing the remains of her father, who had died a few months previous. Miss Bache's remains were placed in a vault.

Some Victims Interred in Mt. Olivet. The remains of four victims were interred

in Mount Olivet cemetery under Catholic auspices. They were Catherine Horan, Johannah Connor, Bridget Dunn and Catherine Hull. Of the fourteen coffins lowered into the pits, there were only six that bore names of recognized remains: Julia McEwin, Mrs. Collins, Elizabeth Branagan, Lizzie Brahler, Eliza Lacey and Maggie Yonson. The names of the eight unknown were not discovered until some days after the terrible catastrophe. Later the number of victims of the explosion was increased to twenty-one by the deaths of some taken to hospitals and discovery of those missing. It was estimated at the time that almost every hack in the city was engaged at the auspices. They were Catherine Horan, Joevery back in the city was engaged at the funeral, and the backmen previously agreed

in meeting to charge only the regulation fee for funeral service.

Secretary Stanton of the War Department sent an order to Commandant Benton at the arsenal declaring that the funeral and all expenses incident to the interment of the victims would be paid by the government, closing with the following statement: "You will not spare any means to express the respect and sympathy of the government for the deceased and their surviving friends."

Movement for Monument. On the Monday following a move

suitable monument as a memorial to the victims. A committee composed of one from each department of the arsenal was formed to solicit subscriptions, and appropriate resolutions were passed. Mr. J. G. Dudley was made chairman and Major Stebbins treasurer.

The monument was finally secured by public subscription and erected over the site just about a year afterward. It is a neat and attractive shaft of marble, showing on one of the tablets a representation of the explosion and fire, and on another panel the date of June 17, 1865, when erected. The event that led to its erection happened nearly forty years ago, but there are many living today who will remember its sad associations and the intense public interest shown over its fatal sequence.

On two of the panels is found the following list of names of the victims of the explosion: Ellen Roche, Margaret Horan, Lizzie Brahler, Eliza Lacey, Julia McEwen, Johanna Connors, Bettie Brannagan, Bridget Dunn, Susan Harris, Margaret C. Yonson, W. E. Tippett, Emma Baird, Melissa Adams, Annie S. Bache, Kate Branahan, Emily Collins, Mary Burroughs, Pinkey Scott, Louisa Lloyd, Rebecca Hull, Sallie McElfresh.

CALLED FRENCH ART

A METHOD OF DECORATING LEATHER AND WOOD.

Used on Everything From Slippers to Bed Room

Written for The Evening Star.

Parisians have long held the secret of a simple process of decorating on leather and wood. At last, however, this "French art," as it is called, has been introduced in this country, and all sorts of things are being decorated after the new fashion.

Among the leather articles seen are slippers for house and evening wear, belts, shopping bags, purses, card cases, table mats, photograph albums and book covers, decorated in such a manner as to rival the art of the pyrographer. In addition to the decoration itself, it is quite a fad to use the initial letters or the monogram of the wner on the object.

The only materials required for this process are a small vial of fastening varnish, two soft brushes, a sponge, a piece of fine linen and the design to be reproduced. On light leathers, like chamois and the fashionable pigskin, lithographed designs of flowers, birds and butterflies in colors are effectively used. Half-tone pictures and letters in black are also desirable, as they give the appearance of burnt leather. Prepared designs, which are purchased at art stores, are used for decorating dark leather. These are covered with white lead or with a gold back, and are inexpensive.

The worker usually cuts off the larger portion of the margin of the design, after which the face of it is smeared with fastening varnish applied by a soft brush. Great care is taken to cover every portion of the cess are a small vial of fastening varnish,

care is taken to cover every portion of the design, but not to go beyond the outlines. Five or ten minutes are consumed while the varnish is drying, after which the varnished surface is placed upon leather in the desired position. If it is a fleur de lis, to be used on a book cover, for instance, the design is pressed down firmly on the cover with a photograph roller. After two or three minutes the back of the paper is carefully raised, leaving the design on the cover.

The Final Touches.

The next precess is to dip a soft brush in water and wash the surface of the transferred picture as gently as possible, in order to remove the remaining lint. After this the linen cloth is dampened and used to absorb the superfluous moisture on the design. This will also prevent the latter from rising in blisters, and will cause it to dry evenly.

A day is required to dry the design, after which a coat of varnish is applied.

Some of the handsomest new flower pots in the stores are shown with this decoration.

tion, many elaborate designs being carried out. An artistic one seen was for an azalea pot, and it showed large clusters of the pink blossoms with smilax and ferns grouped about the receptacle, which had first been painted a light green. The effect was such a perfect imitation of hand painting that it would be difficult for every contract. was such a perfect imitation of hand paint-ing that it would be difficult for even a con-noisseur to tell the difference. Another pretty idea was that of a deep blue vase, which was decorated with marguerite dai-

which was decorated with marguerite dai-sies and their green leaves.

A three-paneled screen showed pictures of the Three Graces, the Cherubs, and Dawn, applied in the foregoing manner from fine colored pictures. They were so cleverly varnished that they appeared to be lacquered, and the illusion was still further carried out by the glass which covered each panel.

In Green and Red.

An old-fashioned bed room suite, which included a four-poster bed and a bureau with glass knobs, was decorated in the French art style. The furniture was imitation mahogany, and it was, therefore, necessary to remove the paint. This was easily done, and after each piece was carefully sandpaand after each piece was carefully sandpa-pered a stain of light green was applied. When the furniture was thoroughly dried, red poppies were transferred to the panels of the bureau and bed. The chairs and ta-

bles were decorated likewise.

Handkerchief, glove and work boxes, pho tograph frames, trays and other unstained wooden objects are shown in the stores, to e decorated in this manner. One of the most popular stains is black, which is made by going over the wood several times with a brush wet with boiling hot logwood, and then with a strong solution of nutgall.

Club of Dyspeptics. From the Medical Record.

The Dyspeptic Club, recently formed in Jersey City, aims evidently to create a new "department of the interior" and to manage it on advanced and economic theories. So far there are only fifty-seven members in the organization, although a very much greater number, mostly Americans, are plainly eligible.

Each member must make quarterly written reports of experiences. The diversity of these should certainly give due variety to the sessions. But this is the only way to get at facts. The actions of different foods must be duly estimated. Pie and pain, buck-wheat and bloat, sausage and suffering, pickle and pang, cabbage and colic, ham and heartburn, must show their proper rela-tions. The humiliating part of the business is that each culprit must confess to his weak will and his misplaced confidences, while pork, pie and pudding will still hold their own against odds. Thus, no member should be trusted to give absolutely impartial to the confidence of the confiden tial testimony unless he can prove that he was free from cramp, hyperacidity, headwas free from cramp, hyperacidity, headache or borborygmus when his report was
written. Gastralgia 's as apt, in a reflex
way, to affect the higher moral sense of
truth as is a colic to warp sound judgment
on the ordinary relation of cause and effect.
The only time for good resolutions is when
the paragraph is on

In other climates spring comes upon a country of frozen fields and sapless boughs. The changing of the seasons appears to people that have been rubbing hands and stamping feet in unkindly weather, and their appreciation breaks forth in obvious verse, until the "spring poet" is as plentiful verse, until the "spring poet" is as plentiful and as obnoxious as the perspicacious pests of the later season, or the persons that ask "Is it hot enough for you?" It is the idea of many who greet spring with blue noses that the season cannot be appreciated in such a land as Oregon, where winter is balmy and trees are evergreen. There could be no greater mistake, for we do not hail spring for what it ends, but what it begins, and, although here we have no snowdrifts to melt away under the breath of the chinook, the wind brings promises of the "blue, unclouded" summer. It is as the trumpeter of hope that the season is proclaimed pring, the sweet Spring, is the year's pleasant

rom the Philadelphia Press

"Bring me some coffee," said Mr. Nurox, as he finished his dessert,

The Slightest Stir Wakes Them From Rest. ARABBIT'S "THUMP"

ANIMALS AND BIRDS KEEN-EYED

AND ALERT.

Their Every-Day Life and Movements for Food and

Shelter.

Written for The Evening Star.

A forest is sometimes described as a collection of trees, and the description is about as enlightening as the statement that a city is a collection of buildings. Like the city, the forest has a vast population, without which it would be as interesting as a city without its citizens. We admire beautiful trees as we admire beautiful buildings, for themselves, but more interesting to some of us at least are the lives and works of the creatures which inhabit the buildings and the trees, respectively. When I enter a forest in winter or summer I am always aware that I am not alone, though the air be so still that one might hear the growing of the trees. I know that I am watched by many eyes, and that, at every footfall, scores of ears are on the alert. I know that I am causing many a light-sleeping creature to start up in his bed, and from close observation I am led to believe, too, that, in the woods I visit most frequently, some of the wild things turn over for another nap, with the more or less distinct impression that "it's only the fellow with the slouch hat and khaki

breeches, and there's no use staying awake

If you go into the woods in the early spring, you may at first be under the impression that there is little life about you. But sit down awhile, and wait in some spot where your figure will not be too conspot where your figure will not be too conspicuous, and you will probably see some of the creatures whose work you temporarily interrupted. First of all, perhaps, you will hear a faint, crisp drumming sound—the scund made by a wood mouse, when ne drums with one fore foot on a dry leaf, and after a short interval, you will probably hear the answering "br-r-r-r-r" of another mouse. Then, if you are quiet, you will see the dainty form of the creature itself, with its tawny upper parts. white itself, with its tawny upper parts, white belly and feet, its large black eyes, its well-shaped, translucent ears, its trembling whiskers, and its long, silky tail, the latter held carefully off the ground in a graceful curve. Out from the shadow of a bunch of withered leaves he skips leaves bunch of withered leaves he skips, leaps lightly over the ground to a wild cherry tree, where he searches for and eventually finds a cherry stone. A simple matter, this hunting for and finding of a meal; and yet to the mouse it was business—very important business, since it must be at-tended to faithfully every day if he would

He Sees You First.

Next, perhaps you will be aware that a red squirrel is peering out at you from a knot-hole in an old oak tree. Keep still, and, when he goes out to dine, perhaps he will betray the whereabouts of some store of nuts gathered months ago. And these little hoards, how many busy days they represent—days at the end of which even his wiry legs must have ached. I some-times wonder if, at the end of autumn, the squirrels and other creatures which have been laying up food for the winter feel any satisfaction, akin to that which is felt by farmers when their crops are all garnered. And I wonder if, when the stores of a red squirrel are discovered and eaten up by a pig, the owner does not have a feeling somewhat similar to that experienced by a thrifty man whose savings are stolen by

And, as you sit there in sllence, you may hear the sudden "thump" of a rabbit, who, hopping quietly through the un-dergrowth, has discovered your presence. It is not unlikely that he was traveling on business of some kind, important to him-self at least. And what meant the "thump" he gave by bringing his long hind feet sharply to the ground? Was it, as many claim, a warning given to his fellows, or was it possibly the expression of his per-sonal disapproval of something which in-terfered temporarily with the work he had

in hand? Has Business There.

And, perhaps close to you on the ground a pellet of matted fur may betray the presence of some large owl; probably the barred owl which lives in a hollow high up in the very tree against which you lean. He, too, has much business in the wood, and his business is with the mice, the squirrels, the rabbits and the grouse-with any living creature which he can kill. He is an actor of many roles, this great owl with the big round head, and the dark brown half-human eyes. Now he is the midnight hunter coursing the startled rabbit through the forest glades. Now he is a poacher, killing grouse within the boun-daries of some game preserve; and next night behold him as the farmer's ally, exterminating rats and mice and moles. At one hour he is a murderer, slaying per-haps a mother squirrel, whose babies will slowly starve to death in their nest; at the next he is an angel of mercy, ending as with lightning the sufferings of some trapped or wounded creature, which otherwise might linger in agony for days. Yes, there is always important business

going forward in the forest and the better it is understood the more important it seems. There are beavers felling trees, making dams, flooding acres of land, and making dams, hooding acres of rand, and building houses superior to those of certain tribes of men. There are porcupines stripping and killing a hundred trees apiece per annum; woodchucks and chipmunks excavating long, winding subterranean tunnels, muskrats diving for mussels and the roots of water plants and mink and otters fish. of water plants, and mink and otters fishing in the streams and ponds. All the year round, and at all hours of the day and night, there are citizens of the day and night, there are citizens of the forest city plying their trades, earning their "bread," doing their parts toward the carrying out of "the beautiful plan."

ABOUT FLATFOOTEDNESS.

What Causes It and How It May Be Prevented.

Flatfootedness may or may not be increasing among the moderns, but it has at last brought out some very interesting the-ories as to why it should be prevalent. Sandow got flatfooted from lifting heavy weights, according to the opinion of Dr. Sargent of Harvard. Children are likely to be afflicted in this way when they wear spring heels, for the bones of the instep, in the case of young people, depend for keeping their place upon adequate support of the heel. Fat children find themselves becoming flatfooted because of the abnormal weight the feet have to sustain. Poor feeding of the child tends to make it flatfooted, for the bones of the foot require plenty of lime to make them firm and strong. Foor feeding leads to "rickets" as well as flatfootedness, though the physician who says it does not stop to explain rickets. What used to be called rheumatism of the feet now turns out to be flatfootedness. Persons who go barefooted all the time are said never to get the trouble, so we are led to believe that if we wear shoes at all we are apt to become as the big policoman or the mythical Chicago girl.

If one doctor's story is believed only old people get flatfootedness after the bones begin to disintegrate, so to speak, and let down the high arch of beauty in the instep. Asked whether the malady was at all common among the applicants for membership the case of young people, depend for keep

mon among the applicants for membership in the Massachusetts militla, Dr. Blood of in the Massachusetts militia, Dr. Blood of Boston said; "If it exists in form serious enough to interfere with walking, of course, it bars him from enlistment." That is not surprising, for if there is one accomplishment a state's militia ought to possess it is that of being able to walk, As for the rest of us, we ought not to care whether we are flatfooted or not, for there is less and less reason for our walking any